

Sports

Charles Barkley's advice for Minnesota Timberwolves: Hire Del Harris as coach

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ESPN/ABC analyst Mark Jackson is the presumed favorite to become Minnesota Timberwolves head coach, but Charles Barkley, on his Web site (sircharlesincharge.com), made a pitch for former NBA coach Del Harris.

"I like the idea of Harris coaching the Wolves because it's not like this team is going to compete for a championship any time soon," Barkley blogged. "Harris just turned 72. Let him work with these young cats for the next two seasons while he grooms one of his assistants to take over for him."

Barkley follows with a long list of players Harris helped develop during with the Lakers, from Nick Van Exel and Eddie Jones to Derek Fisher and Kobe Bryant, and notes, "I've never been a fan of young coaches coaching young teams."

Barkley concluded: "At this stage the Timberwolves don't need a coach who gives lengthy pep talks and runs up and down the sideline screaming. They need a basketball nerd like Delmer (Harris) to teach them everything they should have learned in college."

Wolves president of basketball operations David Kahn isn't commenting on Rubio or the coaching search, but Barkley isn't the only media member weighing in.

From [ESPN.com](#)'s Marc Stein: "We're also hearing that new Wolves president David Kahn is assembling a l-o-n-g list of candidates to interview for his coaching opening, suggesting that his search to replace Kevin McHale could

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In this photo taken on Nov. 23, 2008, Chicago Bulls assistant coach Del Harris looks on against the Denver Nuggets in the first quarter of the Nuggets' 114-101 victory in an NBA basketball game in Denver. (AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

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